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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: P177-US



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of: Gary W. Grube et al.
Application No.: 10/087,081
Filing Date: March 1, 2002
For: Method Of Manufacturing A Probe Card

Examiner: Not Known
Group Art Unit: 2812

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication, U.S. and foreign patent document, and pending U.S. application (including drawings and claims), is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. The Examiner is requested to initial and return the attached Form PTO/SB/08A in accordance with MPEP §609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

- ☒ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d))
-- OR --
- ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage
-- OR --
- ☒ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits
-- OR --
- ☐ (4) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.

- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1) three months beyond the filing date of a national application; (2) three months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; (3) the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, or (4) the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:

- ☐ a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **or**
- ☐ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:

- A. a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **and**
- B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

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☒ *Fee Authorization.* Although Applicants believe that no fee is due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due, or credit any overpayment associated, with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (Order No. P177-US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 10, 2002

By: 

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Modified Form PTO/SB/08A

Substitute Form PTO 1449 A/PTO				<i>Complete If Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/087,81
				Filing Date	March 1, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Grube et al.
				Group Art Unit	2812
				Examiner Name	Not Known
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	P177-US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions
		Number	Kind Code ²			
✓	1	3849728		Evans	11/19/1974	
✓	2	4480223		Aigo	10/30/1984	
✓	3	4567432		Buol et al.	1/28/1986	
✓	4	4837622		Whann et al.	6/6/1989	
✓	5	4899099		Mendenhall et al.	2/6/1990	
✓	6	4983907		Crowley	1/8/1991	
✓	7	4994735		Leedy	2/19/1991	
✓	8	5090118		Kwon et al.	2/25/1992	
✓	9	5103557		Leedy	4/14/1992	
✓	10	5148103		Pasiecznik, Jr.	9/15/1992	
✓	11	5162728		Huppenthal	11/10/1992	
✓	12	5177439		Liu et al.	1/5/1993	
✓	13	5185502		Shepherd et al.	2/9/1993	
✓	14	5191708		Kasukabe et al.	3/9/1993	
✓	15	5225777		Bross et al.	7/6/1993	
✓	16	5308443		Sugihara	5/3/1994	
✓	17	5399982		Driller et al.	3/21/1995	
✓	18	5513430		Yanof et al.	5/7/1996	
✓	19	5521518		Higgins	5/28/1996	
✓	20	5534784		Lum et al.	7/9/1996	
✓	21	5701666		DeHaven et al.	12/30/1997	
✓	22	5736850		Legal	4/7/1998	
✓	23	5806181		Khandros et al.	9/15/1998	
✓	24	5821763		Beaman et al.	10/13/1998	
✓	25	5828226		Higgins et al.	10/27/1998	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



Modified Form PTO/SB/08A

Substitute for form 1449			Complete If Known		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	10/087,81	
			Filing Date	March 1, 2002	
			First Named Inventor	Grube et al.	
			Group Art Unit	2812	
			Examiner Name	Not Known	
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	P177-US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ⁵	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions
		Number	Kind Code ²			
✓	26	5974662		Eldridge et al.	11/2/1999	
✓	27	6014032		Maddix et al.	1/11/2000	
✓	28	6043563		Eldridge et al.	3/28/2000	
✓	29	6050829		Eldridge et al.	4/18/2000	
✓	30	6133744		Yajima et al.	10/17/2000	
✓	31	6160412		Martel et al.	12/12/2000	
✓	32	6174744	B1	Watanabe et al.	1/16/2001	
✓	33	6184576	B1	Jones et al.	2/6/2001	
✓	34	6188231	B1	Palagonia	2/13/2001	
✓	35	6289583	B1	Belmont et al.	9/18/2001	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials ⁵	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ³				
✓	36	EP	802419	A2	Soejima et al.	10/11/1997		
✓	37	JP	05-029406		Nakao	2/5/1993		x
✓	38	JP	06-050990		Kazami	2/25/1994		x
✓	39	JP	08-015318		Suzuki et al.	1/19/1996		x
✓	40	WO	00/33096		Eldridge et al.	6/8/2000		
✓	41	WO	00/75677		Eslamy et al.	12/14/2000		
✓	42	WO	98/52224		Pedersen et al.	11/19/1998		

OTHER PRIOR ART – NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ⁵	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	43	LEUNG et al., "Active Substrate Membrane Probe Card," Center For Integrated Systems Stanford University (Oct. 12, 1995) .	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

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